

Forrest, Brian

Subject: FW: transfusion related event (130804)

From: Sudilovsky, Daniel
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 3:21 PM
To: Raupers, Deb
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Deb,

I wanted to thank you for the detailed debriefing of your investigation findings on 9/22 of the above referenced incident which occurred on 9/11/16 and filed by Pt. [REDACTED]

As we discussed, the lab and nursing leadership have worked diligently to establish standard operating procedures relating to the transfusion of blood products. We agree that errors in the transfusion of blood products (on the lab or nursing side) are exceedingly dangerous and can lead to rapidly catastrophic/lethal outcomes. The current standard lab and nursing procedures (most recently updated 7/16) are based on best practices and, when followed to the letter, are designed to optimally ensure patient safety. It is also clear to me that the CCU nursing leadership has well developed educational programs in place and that both nurses involved in this patient complaint have been thoroughly educated and have signed off on these procedures. I understand both individuals involved are experienced nurses as well.

After much consideration, I can only conclude from these facts that the nurses in this case acted in a wantonly and willfully reckless manner by sidestepping the fail safes of our standard operating procedures and endangered this patient's life in doing so. Not following protocol to positively identify the patient prior to transfusion by using stickers on a clipboard at the nursing station rather than the patient's arm band at the bedside to identify the patient represents a clear near miss/or potential serious harm scenario. As experienced nurses, this represents a particularly egregious infraction and I have little reason to believe that this would not be repeated at some point in the future or that this form of disregard for protocols will not be passed on to less experienced staff, if they are in positions to do so.

As Laboratory Director for CHS, I feel in the strongest of terms that these two individuals should not be in positions in which their duties or functions as nurses could again jeopardize patient safety in our system.

DS

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